

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00

AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02

OMB-01 DOE-15 /124 W

-----083707 110927Z /10

P 110819Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9497

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR ELECTRONICALLY

GENEVA FOR STARKEY AND RIESZ, USMTN

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: DIAPHRAGM BEEF CLASSIFICATION

REF: A. FASTO 348, B. TOFAS 464, C. TOKYO 12242,

D. STATE 169806

1. SUMMARY. IN FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH ANIMAL INDUSTRY BUREAU, MAFF, MOTAI EXPRESSED VIEW THAT JAPANESE IMPORTERS MAY HAVE OVER-REACTED TO JULY 3 MEETING WITH MAFF CONCERNING DIAPHRAGM MEAT IMPORTS. IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF IMPORT SHIPMENTS NOT YET FIXED, AND INTERAGENCY STUDY STILL UNDERWAY. MEANWHILE, SHIPMENTS UNDER EXISTING CONTRACTS NOT BEING CHALLENGED BY MAFF. END SUMMARY.

2. DEATHERAGE, FAS/W ACCOMPANIED AGATTACHE TO MEETING

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WITH MOTAI, ANIMAL INDUSTRY BUR., MAFF, JULY 10 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF JULY 3 MAFF ACTION CONCERNING DIAPHRAGM BEEF CLASSIFICATION. DEATHERAGE EXPLAINED THAT TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS AND DIAPHRAGM MEATS HANDLED AND USED SIMILARLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND ARE USUALLY PRICED LOWER THAN PRIMAL CUTS. MOTAI WAS ALSO INFORMED OF U.S. EXPORTERS REPORTS THAT JAPANESE IMPORTERS ARE

CANCELLING SOME CONTRACTS AS A RESULT OF UNCERTAINTIES  
ARISING FROM THE JULY 3 ACTION.

3. MOTAI SHOWED SOME SURPRISE ABOUT THE REPORTED CONTRACT  
CANCELLATIONS. HE SAID NOTIFICATION TO IMPORTERS WAS  
MERELY A WARNING THAT JAPANESE OFFICIALS WOULD BE LOOKING  
CLOSELY AT IMPORTS TO ASSURE THAT NO QUOTE CARCASS BEEF  
UNQUOTE IS IMPORTED AS DIAPHRAGM OR OFFAL.  
ACCORDING TO MOTAI, INCREASED SURVEILLANCE NECESSARY  
BECAUSE OF ACCUSATIONS BY LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AND PRODUCER  
REPRESENTATIVES THAT QUOTAS BEING CIRCUMVENTED BY IMPORT-  
ING CARCASS MEAT LABELLED DIAPHRAGM OR OFFAL.

4. MOTAI EMPHASIZED THAT THE DECISION FOR INCREASED  
SURVEILLANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND THAT NO  
DATE FOR IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN SET. IN FACT, HE SAID  
A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS STILL REMAIN TO BE ANSWERED CONCERN-  
ING IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MATTER WILL BE UNDER STUDY FOR  
SOME TIME BY MAFF AND THE OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED, I.E.,  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, MITI AND CUSTOMS. HE  
CONSIDERS THE MATTER STRICTLY TECHNICAL WHICH SHOULD HAVE  
NO BEARING ON THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS AND EMPHASIZED THAT  
THERE IS NO CONNECTION WITH THE INCREASED HIGH QUALITY  
BEEF IMPORT QUOTA UNDER THE STRAUSS/USHIBA UNDERSTANDING.

5. HE SAID THAT WHILE HE DID NOT HAVE UNILATERAL AUTHORI-  
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TY TO FIX A FINAL CUT OFF DATE FOR EXISTING CONTRACTS OR  
TO CALL IMPORTERS BACK INTO SESSION, HE WOULD COORDINATE  
WITH THE OTHER AGENCIES IN AN EFFORT TO REASSURE IMPORTERS  
THAT EXISTING CONTRACTS WILL BE PERMITTED ENTRY AND TO  
CLEAR UP ANY CONFUSION WHICH MAY HAVE LEAD TO OVER-  
REACTION BY THE TRADE.

6. COMMENT: WHILE SOME CONFUSION OBVIOUSLY STILL EXISTS  
ON DEFINITIONS--I.E. WHICH MUSCLE IS INSIDE SKIRT AND  
WHICH OUTSIDE SKIRT--AND CHARACTERISTICS OF DIAPHRAGM AND  
TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS, MOTAI SEEMED GENUINELY SURPRISED  
ABOUT REACTION OF TRADE ON BOTH SIDES TO THE JULY 3 NOTI-  
FICATION. HE SEEMS WILLING TO HOLD OFF IMPLEMENTING  
INCREASED SURVEILLANCE MEASURES UNTIL ISSUE IS FULLY  
UNDERSTOOD AND HE ACCEPTED OUR OFFER TO WORK TOGETHER IN  
REACHING AGREEMENT ON DEFINITIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION.  
MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, MEATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 TOKYO 12242, 78 STATE 169806  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2045338  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DIAPHRAGM BEEF CLASSIFICATION  
**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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